

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for decoding a bitstream comprising the steps of:

(A) ~~generating a first field picture in response to a frame picture of~~ receiving a first bitstream, wherein said first
5 bitstream comprises an intra-only frame picture stream comprising alternating macroblock rows, with each row containing a plurality of vertical lines from a single respective field;

(B) generating a first field picture and a second field picture in response to ~~said frame picture of~~ said first bitstream;
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(C) generating a second bitstream comprising said first field picture and said second field picture, such that said second bitstream is decodable as interlaced field pictures using an MPEG-2 compliant decoder.

2. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, wherein said generating steps further comprise:

copying a frame header from said first bitstream into a first field header portion of a first field buffer and a second
5 field header portion of a second field buffer; and

modifying (i) a portion of said first field header portion to indicate a top field picture and (ii) a portion of said second field header portion to indicate a bottom field picture.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim ~~1~~2, wherein said generating steps further comprise:

5 copying a plurality of ~~slice~~ said macroblock rows from said first bitstream to said first field buffer and said second field buffer, wherein said copying alternates between said first and said second buffers after each ~~slice~~ macroblock row.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 3, wherein said generating steps further comprise:

5 adjusting a slice number of each ~~slice~~ macroblock row in said first field buffer and said second field buffer to increment consecutively.

5. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, wherein step (C) further comprises:

writing said first field picture and said second field picture consecutively to said second bitstream.

6. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 4, wherein step (C) comprises:

writing said first field buffer followed by said second field buffer to said second bitstream.

7. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

presenting said second bitstream to a video decoder.

8. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 7, wherein said video decoder is configured to support a field picture mode.

9. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 7, further comprising:

presenting even and odd field lines on a television monitor in response to said second bitstream.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus comprising:

means for ~~generating a first field picture in response to a frame picture of~~ receiving a first bitstream, wherein said first bitstream comprises an intra-only frame picture stream comprising
5 alternating macroblock rows, with each row containing a plurality of vertical lines from a single respective field;

means for generating a first field picture and a second field picture in response to ~~said frame picture of~~ said first bitstream; and

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means for generating a second bitstream comprising said first field picture and said second field picture, such that said second bitstream is decodable as interlaced field pictures using an MPEG-2 compliant decoder.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus comprising:

a circuit configured to

(i) ~~generate a first field picture in response to a frame picture of~~ receive a first bitstream, wherein said first
5 bitstream comprises an intra-only frame picture stream comprising alternating macroblock rows, with each row containing a plurality of vertical lines from a single respective field,

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(ii) generate a first field picture and a second field picture in response to ~~said frame picture of~~ said first bitstream, and

(iii) generate a second bitstream comprising said first field picture and said second field picture, such that said second bitstream is decodable as interlaced field pictures using an MPEG-2 compliant decoder.

12. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said circuit comprises:

a first field buffer;

a second field buffer; and

5 a transform circuit configured to (i) copy a frame header from said first bitstream into a first field header portion of said first field buffer and a second field header portion of said second field buffer.

13. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said transform circuit is further configured to:

5 modify (i) a portion of said first field header portion to indicate a top field picture and (ii) a portion of said second field header portion to indicate a bottom field picture.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said transform circuit is further configured to:

5 copy a plurality of ~~slice~~ said macroblock rows from said first bitstream to said first field buffer and said second field buffer, wherein said copying alternates between said first and said second buffers after each ~~slice~~ macroblock row.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said transform circuit is further configured to:

5 adjust a slice number of each ~~slice~~ macroblock row in said first field buffer and said second field buffer to increment consecutively.

16. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 12,
wherein said transform circuit is further configured to:

5 write an output from said first field buffer and an
output from said second field buffer consecutively to said second
bitstream.

17. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 11,
further comprising:

a video decoder circuit configured to receive said second
bitstream.

18. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 17,
wherein said video decoder circuit is further configured to support
a field picture mode.

19. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 17,
wherein said video decoder circuit is further configured to present
even and odd field lines on a television monitor in response to
said second bitstream.

20. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 11,
wherein said first bitstream comprises an intra-only MPEG-2 frame
picture stream.

Please add the following new claims:

21. (NEW) The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said transform circuit is further configured to:

write sequence-related information from said first bitstream to said second bitstream.

22. (NEW) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said transform circuit modifies one or more portions of sequence-related headers from said first bitstream prior to output in said second bitstream.